5

Attorney ket No.: 2925-434P Lucent Case No.:119267/Feder 8-1

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Disclosed is a method to reduce contention in a networked system and to provide superior bandwidth allocation to network devices contesting for network use. The method achieves reduced contention by reducing the amount of delay a network device is required to wait before attempting to transmit data after a data collision occurred. Superior bandwidth allocation is achieved by placing devices in back-off delay immediately after they transmit successfully.